

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 1 1. A method for enhancing the use of the Internet, comprising:
2 installing software into an Internet connection device to enable said connection
3 device to add a link to an e-mail message requesting a recipient of the e-mail to place a
4 telephone call to a designated telephone number; and
5 wherein said link includes information to enable the e-mail recipient to download a
6 computer program into the e-mail recipient's computer to facilitate the placing of said
7 telephone call from the e-mail recipient's computer.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said Internet connection device is a personal
2 computer.
- 1 3. A method of communication utilizing the Internet, comprising:
2 receiving on a server an e-mail message transmitted from a first computer, which e-
3 mail message includes a request to an intended recipient of the e-mail for a return
4 telephone call to a telephone number designated in the e-mail;
5 transmitting said e-mail message to a second computer specified in an address
6 associated with said e-mail message, and including in said e-mail transmission the address
7 of a gatekeeper, said gatekeeper adapted to supply an address of a gateway through which a
8 telephone call originated on said second computer may be routed to said telephone number
9 designated in said e-mail message.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein said gatekeeper is further adapted to confirm
2 authentication information supplied in the e-mail about the e-mail user sending the e-mail.

1 5. A method of providing communications, comprising:
2 receiving on a first server an e-mail transmission from a first Internet connection
3 device originated by a first e-mail user, said e-mail transmission including a link which
4 when displayed on a second Internet connection device enables a second e-mail user of said
5 second Internet connection device to initiate voice communication between said second
6 Internet connection device and a telephone number specified in said link;
7 transmitting said e-mail message from said first server to an address of said second
8 Internet connection device; and
9 generating a telephone call from said second Internet connecting device to said
10 telephone number.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said second Internet connection device obtains from
2 a gatekeeper the address of a gateway through which said telephone call may be connected
3 to said telephone number.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said first Internet connection device is a personal
2 computer.

1 8. The method of claim 5 wherein said second Internet connection device is a personal
2 computer.